



# VETERANS MILLENNIUM HEALTH CARE AND BENEFITS ACT

## LONG TERM CARE COPAYMENT (LTC) PHASE 2

### RELEASE NOTES

Patch EAS\*1\*7

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# What's New in Phase 2

Phase 2 of the Long Term Care Copayments (LTC) project addresses the following requirements:

- Automates the determination of the veteran's exemption from LTC copayments based on eligibility or income.
- Automates the creation of a LTC Copayment Exemption Test based on the veteran's Means Test.
- Allows the creation of a LTC Copayment Exemption Test for those veterans that are not required to take a Means Test.
- Sends the LTC Copayment Exemption Test to the HEC and shares it with all sites of record.
- Revises the spend-down calculation for fixed and liquid assets.

## ***Automated Eligibility Exemptions***

### *Option(s) affected*

- Add a New LTC Copay Test
- Edit a LTC Copay Test
- Edit a LTC Copay Exemption Test

### *Functionality*

The software automates the process of determining exemptions based on veterans' eligibilities when using the options listed above.

## ***LTC Copayment Exemption Test Menu***

Veterans who are applying for LTC services who are not exempt from LTC copayments based on their eligibility, service connected condition, or special business rule, need to provide personal financial information to determine both potential LTC copayments and possible exemption based on that financial data. LTC Copayment Phase 2 adds the LTC Copay Exemption Test user menu and options shown in the following table. Refer to the Long Term Care Copayment User Manual for instructions on how to use these options.

<b>Option Name</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>
LTC Copay Exemption Test Menu	Contains the options pertaining to the Long Term Care Copay Exemption Test
Delete a LTC Copay Exemption Test	Used to delete a LTC Copayment Exemption Test which may have been inadvertently entered. If a LTC Copayment Exemption test is deleted, any associated changes are also deleted.
Edit an Existing LTC Copay Exemption Test	Used to edit existing LTC Copayment Exemption Test information
LTC Copay Exemption Test View	Used to view a LTC Copayment Exemption Test
View LTC Copay Exemption Test Editing	Used to view all changes made to a particular LTC Copayment Exemption Test for a patient. Some of the displayed information includes date of change, user who made the change, and the type of change. If a change involves a change to the test status, both the current and previous values are displayed.

## ***Spend-down of Assets***

### *Option(s) affected*

Calculated LTC Copayments Print

### *Functionality*

After 6 months of LTC services are rendered, the assets will begin to be liquidated on a monthly basis. The assets total will be adjusted for each subsequent month, and will be reflected in the potential out-of-pocket copayment amount as appropriate.

# Phase 2 Software Enhancements

## ***Current Calendar Year Gross Income, Screen 5***

### *Option(s) affected*

- Add a New LTC Copayment Test
- Edit a LTC Copayment Test

### *Functionality*

The software prevents the entry of an amount under the Spouse VA Disability field in the veteran's column.

## ***Deductible Expenses, Screen 6***

### *Options affected*

- Add a New LTC Copayment Test
- Edit a LTC Copayment Test
- View a LTC Copayment Test

### *Functionality*

The name of Field #10, Taxes, has been changed to Taxes (Income). The help text has been changed to read, "Enter in this field the annual amount paid for Taxes during the current calendar year on any amount included in gross income. A monthly amount can be entered with an '\*' after it."

## ***"Declines to Give Income Information" Prompt***

### *Option(s) affected*

Add a New LTC Copayment Test

### *Functionality*

The "Declines to Give Income Information" prompt has been relocated to appear at the top (beginning) of the option.

## **Corrected Copayment Calculation**

### *Option(s) affected*

Calculated LTC Copayments Print

### *Functionality*

The calculation for when a patient is receiving institutional extended care and the patient and spouse reside in separate residences when the patient has been in extended care for 181 days or more has been changed to:

Fixed assets (*minus* the primary residence and vehicle of the spouse only) *plus* Liquid Assets *plus* Veteran and Spouse Income minus Allowance (spouse and veteran) *minus* Expenses.

## **Data Dictionary Changes**

### **INDIVIDUAL ANNUAL INCOME File (#408.21)**

The input transform on the following fields was modified to allow the entry of a number followed by an asterisk (\*) as a monthly amount. This number would then get multiplied by twelve to convert it to a yearly amount.

<b>Field #</b>	<b>Field Name</b>
1.01	MEDICAL EXPENSES
1.02	FUNERAL AND BURIAL EXPENSES
1.03	EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES
1.04	RENT/MORTGAGE
1.05	UTILITIES
1.06	CAR PAYMENT
1.07	FOOD
1.08	COURT-ORDERED PAYMENTS
1.09	INSURANCE
1.1	TAXES (INCOME)
1.11	TAXES (PROPERTY,PERSONAL)

**ANNUAL MEANS TEST File (#408.31)**

The following field was added to link a LTC Copayment Exemption Test with its corresponding Means Test, and to link a LTC Copayment Test with its corresponding LTC Copayment Exemption Test.

Field #	Field Name	Field Type	Node/Piece
2.08 (New Cross Reference: "AT" Regular cross reference on field #2.08)	LINKED LTC COPAY/MEANS TEST	Pointer to File #408.31	2;8

**TYPE OF TEST File (#408.33)**

The following new entry was added for the LTC Copayment Exemption Test.

NUMBER: 4

NAME: LTC COPAY EXEMPTION TEST

**MEANS TEST STATUS File (#408.32)**

The following new entries were added for the LTC Copay Exemption Test.

NUMBER: 14

NAME: NON-EXEMPT

CODE: 1

TYPE OF TEST: LTC COPAY EXEMPTION TEST

ACTIVE: YES

NUMBER: 15

NAME: EXEMPT

CODE: 0

TYPE OF TEST: LTC COPAY EXEMPTION TEST

ACTIVE: YES

**IVM PATIENT File (#301.5)**

The following new field was added as a deletion flag if the LTC Copayment Exemption Test is deleted:

Field #	Field Name	Field Type	Node/Piece
.11	LTC COPAY EXMPT TEST DELETE DT	DATE	0;11

## LTC CO-PAY EXEMPTION File (#714.1)

### **Modify Record:**

NUMBER: 2

NAME: INCOME (LAST YEAR) BELOW LTC THRESHOLD

### **Add Record:**

NUMBER: 12

NAME: INCOME (CURRENT YEAR) BELOW LTC THRESHOLD

## ***Input Template Changes***

### DGMT ENTER/EDIT COMPLETION File (#408.31)

Modified to skip some Means Test specific fields while adding or editing a LTC Copayment Exemption Test.

### EASEC COMPLETE LTC CO-PAY TEST File (#408.31)

Modified to add the setting of the new LINKED LTC CO-PAY /MEANS TEST (Field #2.08).

### EASEC ENTER/EDIT EXPENSES File (#408.21)

Modified to prevent entry in FUNERAL AND BURIAL EXPENSES (Field #1.02) if the veteran is single with no dependents.

### EASEC ENTER/EDIT INCOME File (#408.21)

Modified to prevent entry in VA PENSION (Field #.07) if the Receiving VA Pension indicator in the Patient file (#2) is not equal to Yes. A modification will be made to prevent entry in SPOUSE VA DISABILITY/COMP (Field #.19) during input of veteran's income.